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MINUTES OF JOINT MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE  
COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

AT THE NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL BUILDING

MARCH 11, 1919, AT 9.45 A.M.

Present: Messrs. Abbot,\* Bogert, Bumstead, Clevenger, Cross,\* Hale,\* Howe, Hussey, Johnston, Leuschner, Manning, Michelson,\* Millikan, Noyes,\* Pupin,\* Walcott,\* Washburn, Woods, Yerkes.

Minutes of the joint meeting of February 11, as circulated by mail, were approved.

Mr. Hale presented a cablegram from Dr. Schuster, Secretary of the Royal Society, in regard to the admission of neutral nations to the International Research Council.

*Moved:* That the Council of the National Academy of Sciences and the Executive Board of the National Research Council recommend to the International Research Council that, on the conclusion of peace, nations with sufficient scientific development, which have been neutral during the war, be invited to join the International Research Council. (*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the foregoing resolution be submitted to the National Academy of Sciences for approval. (*Adopted.*)

It was the sense of the joint meeting that the International Research Council should be requested to take action at an early date in the matter of inviting such neutrals to join the Council.

Upon motion of Mr. Hale, acting upon the suggestion of Mr. Elihu Root, Resolved: The Council of the National Academy of Sciences recommends to the Academy the addition of the following paragraph to Section 2, Article II, of the Constitution of the Academy: "It shall be competent for the Council to call in experts or men of special attainments not members of the Academy, to aid, under special permanent organizations, in promoting the objects of the Academy."

Mr. Hale, member for the United States of the Executive Committee of the International Research Council, reported that in accordance with a resolution passed at the November meeting of the International Research Council in Paris, a tentative plan for the formation of an American Section of the proposed International Astronomical Union had been adopted with the approval of the President of the National Academy of Sciences and that the Section had organized under the tentative plan at a meeting held in Washington. The tentative organization provides that the initial membership shall include representatives of organizations as follows:

National Academy of Sciences.....	5
American Astronomical Society.....	10
American Physical Society.....	3

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\* Members of the Council of the National Academy of Sciences.

American Mathematical Society.....	3
U. S. Naval Observatory.....	1
U. S. Nautical Almanac Office.....	1
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.....	1

Messrs. Hale and Leuschner then presented the minutes of the organization meeting of the Section, as printed on page 193.

*Moved:* That the Council of the National Academy of Sciences and the Executive Board of the National Research Council approve the provisional organization of the American Section of the International Astronomical Union. (Adopted.)

Mr. Leuschner then presented the following recommendation of the Division of Physical Sciences:

*Moved:* That in accordance with its offer to serve as the agency in Astronomy of the Council, the American Section of the International Astronomical Union be constituted a Section on Astronomy of the Division of Physical Sciences. (Adopted.)

Mr. Leuschner reported that in harmony with a further resolution of the International Research Council, a committee consisting of Messrs. R. S. Woodward, L. A. Bauer, William Bowie, A. O. Leuschner, Whitman Cross, and C. F. Marvin, had been appointed to consider the question of the tentative organization of an American Section of the proposed International Geophysical Union, and that a report submitted by this committee to the Chairman of the Council had been carefully considered by the Executive Committee of the Division of Physical Sciences which had voted to submit the following recommendations:

That the tentative formation of an American Section of the proposed International Geophysical Union be approved, with the provision that the subjects to be included and their grouping be determined by the Section after its organization.

That the question of the formation of an American Geophysical Society be referred to the Section.

Mr. Leuschner then presented the following provisional nominations on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Division of Physical Sciences for membership in the Section:

Messrs. S. J. Barnett, Joseph Barrell, L. A. Bauer, H. B. Bigelow, W. R. Blair, E. H. Bowie, William Bowie, J. C. Branner, E. W. Brown, Whitman Cross, R. A. Daly, A. L. Day, J. F. Hayford, W. J. Humphreys, A. O. Leuschner, G. W. Littlehales, G. F. MacEwen, C. F. Marvin, Max Mason, A. G. McAdie, A. A. Michelson, R. A. Millikan, F. R. Moulton, H. F. Reid, Frank Schlesinger, R. B. Sosman, J. T. Watkins, H. O. Wood, R. S. Woodward.

*Moved:* That these recommendations and provisional nominations of the Division of Physical Sciences be approved. (Adopted.)

Mr. Hale brought to the attention of the meeting the question of a popular journal to be published jointly by the National Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and stated that the matter would be brought up later for further consideration.

Mr. Yerkes brought up for consideration the question of securing funds for the preparation of a suitable scale for the mental rating of school children, and stated that the General Education Board was prepared to make an appropriation of \$25,000 to meet the expenses of the work if requested to do so by the National Research Council. On motion, the Chairman of the Council was authorized to make such application to the General Education Board.

Mr. Noyes *moved*: That the Executive Board approve the undertaking by the Council of a project of which the broad purpose is to promote fundamental research in physics and chemistry in educational institutions—the project to consist primarily in the organization and maintenance of a system of National Research Fellowships to be awarded to persons who have already demonstrated a high order of ability in research, for the purpose of enabling them to carry on investigations at educational institutions making adequate provision for the prosecution of research in physics and chemistry. *(Adopted.)*

The constitution of a Board to formulate and administer this project was approved, with the proviso that if any member cannot give active service to the work his name shall be withdrawn and another substituted. It was also agreed that Mr. Hale be asked to act temporarily as Chairman.

Mr. Hale proposed that the Division of Foreign Relations include a representative each of the State Department, the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Honorable Elihu Root, former Secretary of State; the Chairmen of the National Research Council and of the Research Information Service; together with one representative each of leading international scientific and technical organizations in which the United States takes part, such as the International Surgical Association, American Section of the International Astronomical Union, the American Section of the International Geophysical Union, International Bureau of Weights and Measures, etc.

*Moved*: That the foregoing plan of organization be approved, that the Chairman of the National Research Council be authorized to proceed with its completion; and that the Foreign Secretary of the National Academy be the Chairman of the Division of Foreign Relations. *(Adopted.)*

Mr. Howe *moved*: That all committees of the various Divisions serve until the annual meeting and that the list of committees and their membership be revised each year at the annual meeting of the Executive Board, in accordance with recommendations to be submitted by the Divisions. *(Adopted.)*

*Moved*: That the questions of this year's annual meeting, of the National Research Council, of the beginning of the financial year, and of the date of appointment of members, be referred to the Interim Committee, with power to act. *(Adopted.)*

*Moved*: That consideration of the following amendment to the Organization of the National Research Council be postponed until the next stated meeting of the Council of the National Academy of Sciences:

## ARTICLE VIII—AMENDMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION

*Section 1.* This organization may be amended by a vote of the Council of the National Academy of Sciences at any stated meeting, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been given to each member of the Council of the National Academy at least thirty days in advance of the stated meeting. (Adopted.)

*Moved:* That the Budget Committee be directed to confer with the Finance Committee of the National Academy of Sciences and with Mr. Gano Dunn concerning a plan for the administration of the financial affairs of the National Research Council under the provision of the new organization by which "the Treasurer of the National Academy of Sciences shall be ex-officio Treasurer of the National Research Council" and to submit such a plan with recommendations. (Adopted.)

In accordance with the resolution, passed at a previous meeting, that the Budget Committee make recommendations for allotments to the several Divisions on the basis of their minimum requirements for the period ending June 30, 1919, the Budget Committee presented the following resolutions:

That the balances of allotments to the several Divisions, amounting in all to \$45,378.99 be and are hereby reverted to the unappropriated fund.

That appropriations to the several Divisions amounting in all to \$39,200, be made for the period February 1 to June 30, 1919.

On this basis the unappropriated funds of the Council derived from the Carnegie Foundation are \$50,810.01; the unappropriated fund available from the Government is \$8,000.

*Moved:* That the foregoing recommendations of the Budget Committee be approved.

(Approved.)

The Chairman presented a check from Dr. W. W. Keen of Philadelphia, amounting to \$106.22, being the proceeds from the recent sales of the book which he prepared for the National Research Council entitled "Treatment of War Wounds."

*Moved:* That a vote of thanks and appreciation be extended to Dr. Keen for this further gift to the funds available for research in connection with the Division of Medicine and Related Sciences. (Adopted.)

*Moved:* That the new Divisions be considered to be effective when the divisional nominations have been approved by the Executive Board, and that present officers of Divisions shall continue to serve until their successors shall have been elected. (Adopted.)

Mr. Hale reported on the present status of the organization of the Divisions and presented the nominations received to date for membership on the Divisions of Physical Sciences, Chemistry and Chemical Technology, and Engineering.

*Moved:* That the nominations as presented be approved, and that the approval of the nominations required to complete the foregoing Divisions be referred to the Interim Committee with power. (Adopted.)

*Moved:* That the question of the publication of the following bulletins be referred to the Interim Committee, with power:

1. National Importance of Scientific and Industrial Research (Hale and others)
2. Report of Committee on Patent Office (Baekeland)
3. Report of the Psychology Committee of the National Research Council (Yerkes)

4. Some Problems of Sidereal Astronomy (Russell)
5. Refractories (Washburn)
6. Industrial Research (Jewett)
7. Scientific Abstracts (Fulcher)

*Moved:* That Mr. C. P. Townsend be elected a member of the Patent Office Committee.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That Mr. James R. MacColl be elected a member of the Advisory Committee of the Industrial Research Section.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the resignation of Mr. W. F. Durand as Scientific Attaché to the American Embassy at Paris, in charge of the Research Information Service in France, be accepted with regret and that the National Research Council express appreciation of the admirable work which he has done and convey its thanks to him.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the resignation of Mr. Edgar Buckingham as Associate Scientific Attaché at Rome, and technical assistant with the Research Information Service in Italy, be accepted with regret and that a vote of thanks be extended to him for the work which he has rendered in this service.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the resignation of Mr. Charles E. Mendenhall as Vice-Chairman of the Division of Physics, Mathematics, Astronomy and Geophysics be accepted with regret; and that the Council express to him its appreciation of the valuable services which he has rendered.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That Mr. A. O. Leuschner be elected Acting Chairman of the Division of Physics, Mathematics, Astronomy and Geophysics.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the resignation of Mr. John Johnston be accepted with regret and that the Chairman be requested to express to him the great appreciation of the work which he has done for the National Research Council, and that the acceptance of this resignation be effective when his successor is appointed.  
(*Adopted.*)

*Moved:* That the transportation expenses of the members of the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology attending the first meeting of the Division, to be held in Washington March 21 and 22, be met by the Council, as a means of assuring a full attendance at this initial meeting; and that the Interim Committee be authorized to make arrangements for the payment of expenses of members attending the initial meetings of other Divisions.  
(*Adopted.*)

Upon the request of Mr. Merriam the Chairman presented the following resolution:

*Moved:* That the sum of \$500 be set aside for general maintenance of the Division of Educational Relations from the present date to June 30, 1919.  
(*Adopted.*)

The Treasurer, Mr. Cross, presented the financial statement for the month ending February 28, 1919, which was accepted.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.

PAUL BROCKETT, *Assistant Secretary.*

#### ORGANIZATION MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SECTION OF THE PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

At the organizing meeting of the International Research Council held in Paris in November 1918, it was decided to establish an International Astronomical Union, to continue and extend the work formerly conducted by such international astronomical organizations as the committee of the Carte du Ciel, the International Union for Co-operation in Solar Research, and similar bodies